ments, to which the Swiss replied, and the reply says ...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: It is not a debate; it is Question Hour. Let him answer the paints raised ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: This Government wants bribery and embezzlement to be included. Are they prepared to include them? Why are they not including them? (*Interruptions*).

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Why non-payment of commission was not made a part of the agreement? (*Interruptions*). Why did the Government of India not ask Bofors to agree to include non-payment of commission and exclusion of middlemen as part of the agreement? (*Interruptions*). There was an agreement ...(*Interruptions*)... between the Government of India and Bofors, but exclusion of middlemen an non-payment of commissions or payoffs was not included as part of the agreement...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I have not yet finished the answer...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जिस तरह से जवाब दिए जा रहे हैं उससे संदेह पुष्ट होता है कि इस सारे सौदे में गोलमाल है.. (व्यवधान) ...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I must complete the answer. I have not yet finished it ...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: This is not the way to reply. It confirms ...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: What is Mr. Chidambaram replying? He is not replying to the specific points. Then there is the Maya Das story... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: There is the Mayadas story also. Let him reply. There is Mayadas report in the *Indian Express*. They did not answer it. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Let him reply to Mr. Vajpayee's questions.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: These are legal matters...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: This Government has no right to exist.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I must be allowed to complete the answer. I have the right to answer...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Why is the Government taking so much time? This Government is incompetent...(*Interruptions*).

SOME HON. MEMBERS: We are not satisfied with the answer...(*Interruptions*).

THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): What is this? They want to walk out!

[*At this stage, some hon. Members left the Chamber.*]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: May I complete the answer....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mrs. Jayanthi Natarajan.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Sir, I wanted a clarification about the serious allegation made by one Member of this House, Mr. Jethmalani, who has now run away...(*Interruptions*) Is there any basis to the allegation made by Mr. Jethmalani, a very serious allegation, concerning one Virginia Rodrigues? What action will they take?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister has already given the information.

Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Postal facilities to Village Panchayats

*203. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have planned to provide postal facilities to all the village panchayats

under a scheme called Panchayat Dak Sewa;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is proposed to be enforced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) It is the desire of the Government that Postal facilities should be provided to all Gram Panchayats in the country within a reasonable period. The scheme of panchayat dak sewaks is one of the means envisaged for fulfilling this objective.

(b) The details of the scheme are as follows:

(i) A resolution is passed by the gram panchayat seeking participation in the scheme. The name of the local volunteer who would serve as Panchayat Dak Sewak is also specified in the resolution.

(ii) On receipt of the resolution, the Superintendent of Post Offices of the area concerned will issue an authority to the dak to sewak enable him to collect/deliver postal articles.

(iii) A recurring grant of Rs. 150/- per month is given to the gram panchayat for payment to the PDS. In addition, the PDS is also entitled to commission on sale of postage stamps and stationery in the panchayat area at the following rates:

Sale per month	Rate of Commission
Upto Rs. 100 . . .	5%
Rs. 101 to Rs. 200/- . .	7.5%
Rs. 201 and above . . .	10%

(iv) The following services are provided by the PDS:

(1) Clearance of letter box installed at the Panchayat Office and conveying the mail to Post Office;

(2) Sale of postage stamps and stationery;

(3) Booking of registered items and their transfer to Post Office;

(4) Delivery of unregistered articles in the panchayat area if required to do so by the Superintendent of Post Offices.

(Delivery of registered/insured/value payable items and payment of money orders is to be done by post office employees only).

(c) The scheme is already in operation on an experimental basis in 2902 gram panchayats in the different States. Depending on the results of the experiment, the scheme may be extend to more panchayats.

Manufactur of VCR/VCP

*204. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:
SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of large scale smuggling of Japanese made VCRs and VCPs into the country from Bangladesh, as reported in the Hindustan Times, daetd the 30th June, 1989; if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard;

(b) what is the estimated production, if any, of VCRs and VCPs within the country and the extent to which it falls short of the demand;

(c) whether a Letter of Intent from the Department of Electronics or permission from any other Ministry/Department is required for the small-scale sector for manufacturing of VCR/VCP and maximum recommended capacity;

(d) what administrative and technical difficulties Government are having for not encouraging indigenous manufacturing/not assumbling of VCR/VCP;

(e) what encouragement, if any, has been given by Government for indigenous manufacture of VCRs and VCPs to make the product available at reasonable prices to check their smuggling into the country; and